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GEORGIA DRIVES OUT TRUSTS

Calvin Law Forces the Big Companies to Cancel Illegal Contracts.

From the Saturday Blade.

Every trust operating in the state of Georgia has succumbed to the Calvin act. As the climax of the effective operations of that measure the American Tobacco company following suit after the potash trust, the coffee trust, the match trust, and all the other trusts, have notified the jobbers and merchants throughout the state that the famous anti-trust bill made their existing contracts unlawful and they would therefore no longer be considered by either party.

This throws the long closed market wide open to competition, and will cause reductions in the price of various commodities. It is all because a little Atlanta cigarette factory, asking and being denied the poor privilege of selling its product in its own town, roused itself to action, tackled and ignominiously whipped not only the great American Tobacco company but all the hosts of trusts behind it.

The bill which directly accomplished this is already famous, and is entitled:

"An act to declare unlawful and void all arrangements, contracts, agreements, trusts or combinations made with a view to lessen free competition in the importation or sale of articles imported into this state, or in the manufacture or sale of articles of domestic growth, or of domestic raw material; to declare unlawful and void all arrangements, contracts, agreements, trusts, or combinations between persons, trusts or corporations designed or which tend to advance, reduce, or control the price of such product or article to producer or consumer of any such product or article, to provide for forfeiture of the charter and franchise of any corporation organized under the laws of this state violating any of the provisions of this act; to prohibit every corporation violating any of the provisions of this act from doing business in this state, to require the attorney general of this state to institute legal proceedings against any such corporations violating the provisions of this act and to enforce the penalties prescribed; to prescribe penalties for any violations of this act; to authorize any persons or corporation damaged by any such trust, agreement, or combination to sue for the recovery of such damage, and for other purposes."

The penalty for violation by domestic corporations is the forfeiture of charter or franchise and corporate existence, and for foreign corporations denial of the right to do business in the state of Georgia. A violation of its provisions is declared a conspiracy against trade and punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$5,000, and by imprisonment in the penitentiary not less than one year nor more than ten years.

Mr. McCord of the firm of Arnold & McCord, proprietor of the E. E. M. Medicated cigarette factory had established his factory and gotten everything in shape for the manufacture of cigarettes. The American Tobacco company thought it foresaw in his goods competition with theirs and immediately declared them under the ban. They were enabled to do this effectively through the fact that they owned every cigarette factory in the United States with the exception of two in St. Louis and of the one in Atlanta. Dealers handling their goods were made to sign a contract under which they were not allowed to sell cigarettes to any retailers without the permission of the American Tobacco company, nor allowed to sell them at any price except that fixed by the company. They were to remain the property of the American Tobacco company until sold and if they handled no other cigarettes and did not aid in any way in the distribution or manufacture of other brands they were to receive in addition to the regular commission of 25 per cent a subsidy of 84 per cent more, and for any violation of the contract the privilege of handling the goods was to be taken away.

When McCord put his manufactured goods on the market all dealers were notified not to sell them by the American Tobacco company and were forced to obey the edict. McCord, after reading the Calvin act, went before the senate committee in the interest of the law and staid until the senate passed the bill.

He had printed in circular form a copy of the contract of the American Tobacco company and a portion of the correspondence between himself and various retailers with whom he had sought to put his goods. The letters showed that the firms wanted to handle his cigarettes, but has been notified not to do so by the American Tobacco company, and were therefore forced to countermand all orders.

The governor signed the measure on Dec. 2, and the trusts, one by one, notified the jobbers that their contracts were made void and need no longer be considered binding in Georgia. But the most astonishing instance of the effective operation of the law is shown in the notification received from President Lorillard. It acknowledges the breaking up of the snuff trust not only in Georgia, but in Alabama and Florida.

DEALING WITH TRUSTS.

There is no competent member of congress who does not realize the grave difficulty of dealing with trusts says the New York Tribune. The popular feeling demands something which as yet legislators have not been able to accomplish. It is essential here to observe that they have not seriously desired to solve the problem. Thousands have said that the Sherman Anti-trust act

was so framed that it could not be enforced.

The federal congress not being able to deal with the question it devolves upon the state legislatures to do so. President Cleveland made this recommendation in his last message. He lamented the failure of congress to pass laws to deal effectively with the evil when he said:

"Though congress has attempted to deal with this matter by legislation, the laws passed for that purpose thus far have proved ineffective, not because of any lack of disposition or attempt to enforce them, but simply because the laws themselves, as interpreted by the courts, do not reach the difficulty. If the insufficiencies of existing laws can be remedied by further legislation it should be done."

The state of Georgia has apparently followed the president's suggestion and discovered a method of dealing with the combines. The Calvin act has yet to stand the test of the courts, but the fact that the great combines have obeyed the edict of the Georgia legislature warrants the assumption that they believe the law to be constitutional. Their lawyers have evidently reached that conclusion or they would not abandon so rich a field.

No firm or corporation has a right to conspire against the thousands of wage-earners in their employ to further their own interests, or rob consumers to pay dividends on stock that never represented any real value. They have no right to throw multitudes of working men and women out of employment by a conspiracy against workingmen and consumers. When any competent statesman attacks the trusts on that ground and on that ground only, he may find that the constitutional difficulties in his way are suddenly and greatly diminished.

SOUTHEAST NOTES.

Southeast Missourian: Col. E. L. Crow, of Grand Rapids, Mich., has been in this community for the last two weeks, securing the right of way for a railroad. It is understood that the road will be a part of the Chicago and Memphis road, and is backed by the Mobile and Ohio road. The contemplated route is from Commerce, in Scott county, down through Mississippi, New Madrid and Pemiscot counties. There have been two routes mapped out from this city to Portageville, one of which is an air line from here to Portageville, and the other is to run west to the edge of the swamps, and then south. The right-of-way of the proposed road has been secured through nearly all the land, and the building of the road is an assured fact.

Farmington Times: A terrible accident befell George, the little three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Sullivan, of Doe Run, which resulted in death a few hours later. The little girl had been playing with a long button-hook, which her mother took away from her and put away, as she supposed, beyond the child's reach; but the little one climbed upon a chair and secured possession of it again, when the mother started towards her to take it away. George ran to get out of her mother's reach, when she fell, and the hook end struck her in the eye and was driven clear into the brain.

Farmington Times: The friends of Brid Smith will be pleased to learn that the testimony in his preliminary examination at Williamsville for the killing of Reuben Thomas, which came off last Friday, developed in a clear case of justifiable homicide, and he was discharged from custody by the justice before whom the examination was held. Public sentiment at Williamsville is all in Brid's favor.

Poplar Bluff Citizen: Scott county, says the Newsboy, has a judge named Bugg. Whether he is gold or silver is not related, but it is certain that it will not be necessary for officious individuals to put insects in his ear. It would be ridiculous, wouldn't it, to put a bug in Bugg's ear?

Goat Atwood, of Caruthersville, was lodged in the St. Louis jail last week by a deputy U. S. marshal for having chopped down two lights near the Bend. He had a quarrel with light-house keeper Hampton, and for revenge destroyed the lights.

Iron County Register: Several light weight Republican congressmen from Missouri will be out of employment after March 4th, next, and were ready to resume their practice before the J. P. courts after that date.

A number of Southeast papers are running ads for the American Business College of Omaha, Neb. The Belle Plains, (Minn.) Reporter says it investigated the concern, and openly declares it a fraud.

Caruthersville Democrat: Several newspapers seem to think that Caruthersville was totally destroyed by the late fire. Far from it. We have still got a good sized town left.

They must have an almanac of their own down in New Madrid county. The Southeast Missourian announced that the natives celebrated Ash Wednesday on the 3d inst.

The 32nd annual fair of the Southeastern District Agriculture Society will be held at Cape Girardeau, October 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16, 1897.

Mayor Coover is the most popular man in Cape Girardeau—a fine case having been voted to him as such at an entertainment last week.

Old soldiers of Stoddard county will petition the coming administration to establish a board of pension examiners at Dexter.

Two men who are wanted in Arkansas for cattle stealing, were arrested at Poplar Bluff last week.

C. E. Gale, of Madison county, has purchased an interest in Caruthersville Democrat.

Jackson has saloons at last—real licensed saloons.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Senator Tillman has got out his pitchfork again, and he is going to use it if the Republicans try to throw out the electoral vote of South Carolina on the protest that is going to be made by Murray, the negro member of the House from that State, when the House and Senate meet this week in joint session to count the electoral votes.

Senator Tillman said on the subject: "If McKinley is going to be inaugurated on the 4th of March, the joint Convention has got to count the vote of South Carolina. If the Republican party wants to make an attack on the constitution of the state, it must make it on some other ground or in some other manner than by endeavoring to prevent the counting of her vote. I wish to go further and express my preference for seeing Mr. McKinley President rather than to see the Presidential function exercised by Secretary Olney."

It will be after the 4th of March, if the effort is made to deny South Carolina the right to vote. The following significant language was used by Representative McCall, of Mass., who is a Republican and Chairman of the Election committee which has charge of the contested election cases from South Carolina in this Congress:

"It is true, apparently, that the election laws of the constitution of South Carolina disbar a large proportion of the population from voting, but it seems to be illiterate ones who are disfranchised. There is a question in the minds of many intelligent men whether this is not a wise plan if constitutionally enforced and carried out according to law. A full generation has passed since the colored men were enfranchised, and I do not know how long they can expect us to coddle them and fight to secure their elective rights, while they neglect to learn to read and write."

Senator Daniel has made a point against the arbitration treaty which may result in arraying the silver senators solidly against its ratification. The point is that if the United States should adopt the free coinage of silver while that treaty was in force, England could put in a claim for the difference between the value of principal and interest of American debts held in England under the new system of a double standard and under the present single gold standard, and if a majority of the arbitrators happened to be gold men would probably get a decision in favor of the claim.

A marked feature of the contested election cases decided last week by the House was that the Democrats who held the seats were upheld by the Republican majority. The Democrats so honored were Representatives Swanson, of Va., Kendall, of Ky., and Price and Boatner, of La. Tom Watson's contest has been decided the same way by the House.

The Washington Post has been having fun with Secretary Morton. Its latest hit is too good to be overlooked: "The Post is under obligations to Hon. J. Sterling Morton for his most valuable report on 'tape worms of poultry.' By the keen employment of that twin-screw and double expansion logic for which the head of the Agricultural Department is so noted, the writer is able to show that this pest, which is annoying to farmers and adding to their mortgages is due directly to the constant agitation of the financial question by irresponsible persons who do not agree with the present administration."

FROM PRICE'S LANDING.

We hear a great many of our citizens praising the Newsboy for the stand it took on the "poll tax for criminal costs" question, and other questions in the common people's behalf. The people are beginning to appreciate a good thing, and we predict that a Newsboy will be found in every home around here ere long.

Married, at the home of the groom's brother, February 4, Chas. C. Green and Miss Clara Boyett, daughter of S. D. Boyett. The young couple are very popular and have the best wishes of the entire community.

Chas. Carr and D. F. Busby, two of our fellow followers of the plow, have given up their commissions as such and taken contracts to cut timber for Wylie & Beardslee.

Prof. J. M. Crow took advantage of the recent warm spell and had his beard shaved off. We suppose he was tired of having the wind blow through his whiskers.

Col. Brown, our enterprising stockman, is having his cattle curried daily, which we think a good idea.

Constable Chrismon has been out serving tax notices the past week. H. P. Hutson accompanied him.

Miss Ella English, one of Diehlstadt's reigning belles, has become a resident of this place.

Charles Hicks has moved into our midst and will open a barber shop. We wish him success.

Wheat looks bad, and the price of corn is so low our farmers refuse to put any on the market.

Louis Pobst has gone into the stock business. He will raise nothing but blooded stock.

Robert Ross went to Commerce, and George Christman to Charleston, Monday.

John Lee, one of our hustling farmers, is sojourning in Charleston this week.

Constable Burton and Mr. Stubbs, of Blodgett, were here last week.

Mr. Steinbrecker is in Kentucky this week buying cattle.

Miss Effie Lane, of Illinois, is visiting relatives here.

Miss Ida Rochell is visiting friends in our burg this week.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Vandike is very ill.

D. F. Busby went to Diehlstadt Monday.

LATE NEWS NOTES.

Dr. Davis has filed suit against Dr. Slayden for \$10,000 damages for defamation of character. Davis claims that Slayden accused him of killing a patient. If the patient died while under Davis' charge, then how is he going to prove that Slayden lied? Both doctors reside in Dexter.

An ordinance prohibiting the ringing of church bells has been introduced in the city council of Chicago. It is claimed that the bells disturb the late sleepers on Sunday. The author of the bill argues that people get to poker games and trains without bells and ought to get to church without them.

Mrs. Minor Merriwether, president of the West End Benevolent Society, St. Louis, and mother of Lee Merriwether who so ably assisted in the prosecution of Duestrow, has appealed to Governor Stephens to commute Duestrow's death sentence to life imprisonment.

If the motion before the Supreme court for a rehearing of the Duestrow case by the court en banc is over-ruled the case will go to the U. S. Supreme court. Duestrow is billed to hang next Tuesday—but he won't.

In three contested election cases for seats in the Missouri House the Democratic caucus decided that the Republicans were entitled to the seats. This proves that our present House is not composed of partisans.

Fifty state troops guarded a negro, who was charged with criminal assault on a white woman, while he pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to seven years in the pen at Lebanon, Ky., Tuesday.

A dime savings institution where poor people deposit their little earnings, collapsed in Chicago Monday. There are 4,000 depositors.

This will increase the army of sufferers in the Windy City.

Boswell Beardsley, of North Lansing, Mich., was appointed postmaster by President John Quincy Adams and still holds the office. He is 90 years old and has been postmaster for sixty-nine years.

The farmer members of the Missouri legislature have organized so as to be more powerful. They want to vote as a unit and support only such measures as will benefit all the people.

In New York a cat knocked a pistol off a table with its tail, the weapon was discharged, the ball struck a boy in the leg and amputation was necessary to save the boy's life.

A protest is going to be made from South Carolina against counting the electoral vote, which may cause a debate and delay in declaring the result of the election.

There is something about the English-American arbitration treaty that its advocates don't want known, and the matter is being considered behind closed doors.

A Populist has introduced a bill in the Kansas legislature to abolish elections and let all county offices to the lowest bidder. Roosters lay eggs in Kansas.

A bill has been introduced in the United States senate declaring the "Star Spangled Banner" to be the national air of the United States.

The millionaires of the New York Chamber of Commerce have organized a League to fight the free coinage of silver for the next four years.

The czar of Russia is a victim of epileptic fits. He has a fit about once a month. With all his wealth and glory he is an unhappy man.

The Alabama legislature has acknowledged an indebtedness to the University of Alabama of \$2,000,000 from the sale of school lands.

Howard Gould has ordered a fanto cost \$100,000 for his finances. Most of us are too poor to afford a palm leaf.

Edwin Gould will start a match factory at Kankakee, Ill., in opposition to the Diamond Match Company.

The Salvation Army in New York has provided food and shelter for more than 1,500 homeless poor.

A young lady was dragged from a street car and robbed in broad day light in St. Louis Sunday.

Secretary Olney has been offered the chair of international law at the Harvard university.

Harry Holphrey was fined one dollar by the Mayor of Clinton, Mo., for hugging a young lady.

W. J. Bryan delivered two lectures at Sherman, Tex., to immense audiences on the 5th inst.

The bill providing for the reduction of freight rates has been ordered engrossed.

The governor has signed the fellow servant bill and it will become law in 90 days.

Mrs. Nancy Johns, of Lafayette county, Mo., recently celebrated her 98th birthday.

General Joe Shelby, United States Marshal for Missouri, is reported very sick.

At Mansfield, Mo., Mrs. Elizabeth Hall, aged 80, was accidentally burned to death.

Mrs. Cleveland gave a farewell reception at the White House on the 6th inst.

SEVEN suicides are reported from Chicago in 48 hours. Too much prosperity.

Senator Vest returned from Florida Saturday much improved in health. Mark Hanna's chances for the Ohio Senatorship are on the wane.

Arkansas has quarantined against Missouri horses and mules.

FOR RENT.

A good farm, 200 acres in cultivation. Will rent for a term of years. Wm. BALLENTINE, Commerce.

FROM BLODGETT.

Blodgett is the only town in South-east Missouri in which confidence has been restored, and we are now brisk in the sunshine of prosperity. Our merchants are receiving hardware, groceries, dry goods, etc., in car loads every day.

J. E. Lemley and wife received a message from Neelyville Monday, announcing the death of Dr. J. H. Powell, Mrs. Lemley's father. The remains will be brought to Blodgett for interment.

Blodgett will have the honor of entertaining the teachers of Scott county, Saturday.

Frank Baty, of Union City, Tenn., is visiting relatives and old friends at this place.

Miss Mattie Stobaugh and Miss Tude Watkins visited Morley friends last week.

Blodgett will soon have telephone connection with Diehlstadt.

John Rushing and wife, of Diehlstadt, were here Monday.

Dr. W. H. Allen went to Dexter last week.

FROM ORAN.

J. F. Ashley's new residence is almost completed, and is one of the most substantial houses in Oran. It is a nine room cottage and is an ornament to the north end of town.

Rudolph Schultz and family came back from Charleston Tuesday, where they had been to attend the wedding of Aug. Schultz.

Leo Mayhall, a carpenter who has been working here for some time, is suffering from a very sore hand.

Chas. Kreyzig, the veteran landscape gardener, is putting up a very neat summer house for A. Metz.

Our city duds are going to have some much needed sidewalks built around town.

Prof. Lutes has resigned his position as principal of our school, owing to bad health.

Jake Grossman, our new merchant, seems to be doing a good business.

Wade and Birch Dyer are here on a visit to relatives.

Wm. Ballentine was here Tuesday on business.

Mrs. Joseph Scaggs is reported as very ill.

Silas White, of Benton, was here Monday.

County Court Proceedings.

Court continued to grind until Saturday, and the following proceedings were recorded since our last issue:

Allowances: Geo. D. Barnard, \$25.37; B. F. Marshall, \$23.30; C. D. M. Gupton, \$5.25; J. W. Farris, \$21.87; W. R. Batts, \$4; Dr. S. J. Wade, \$21.25; J. W. Farris, \$200; F. W. Wilfirth, \$125.50; J. W. Farris, \$200; W. C. Lambert, \$100; R. L. Harrison, \$21; J. L. Moore, \$125; W. H. Holsinger, \$30.65; C. A. Leedy, \$4; Eliza Matney, \$5.

Tax return of St. L. I. M. & S. Ry. Co., filed and following raises made: 22 miles track, from \$100,000 to \$125,000; 84 miles, from \$121,25 to \$30,000; depot at Oran, \$100 to \$200; depot at Morley, \$100 to \$200; water tank and pump house at Morley, \$100 to \$400; depot at Blodgett, \$100 to \$150; depot at Sikeston, \$250 to \$300; water tank at Sikeston, \$100 to \$400.

Following road overseers appointed: District 1, J. R. Joyce; 2, W. P. Claypool; 3, J. R. Bugg; 4, J. A. Parks; 5, J. D. Withrow; 6, E. C. Myers; 7, D. H. Harper; 8, N. F. Townes; 9, J. A. Miller; 10, Thos. J. Allen; 11, Peter Bollinger; 12, W. C. Huestetter; 13, H. W. Head; 14, J. Sanders; 15, R. C. Swan; 16, Casper Eifert; 17, Chas. Strack.

Following jurors were selected for the April term of Circuit court:

GRAND JURY.

Wm. Stubblefield, Joe Miller, Joe Lisle, A. J. Williams, C. M. Smith, Eliza Johnson, A. N. Ellis, J. M. Jenkins, Aug. Dohogne, Louis Pfefferkorn, Aug. Klemme, Albert Welch.

PERIT JURY.

Otto Heeb, Alva Hayden, Chas. E. Moore, W. D. Miller, Jas. Smith, O. N. Wilson, J. C. Richardson, H. P. Proctor, R. M. Finley, Dave Grojan, E. F. Bryanes, Jasper Trotter, T. J. Pool, Wash. Ancl, W. B. Wray, Robt. Campbell, Theophil Scherer, George Cloar, I. N. Anderson, Robt. Adams, Joe Bollinger, Wm. O'Herron, Life Brown, Jr., A. A. Thomas.

H. M. A. Ry relieved of \$200 tax and following valuation fixed: 13 miles track, \$13,000; 1 mile side track \$500; depots at Commerce, Benton and Morley, \$50 each; one engine, \$2,000; passenger coach, \$500; freight cars, \$1,000; water tank, \$100.

Ordered by the court that the road overseers in the county be notified to repair the bad places in the bridges, culverts, levees and roads in their respective road districts, and save legal proceedings against them for neglect of duty.

Surveyor ordered to view and report on probable cost of repairing bridge on Diehlstadt and Blodgett road, near Ostron place.

Road service: 4 days or \$4; overseers will be allowed \$2 per day; team and driver, \$2; road hands, \$1; finger boards, 25 cents each.

H. W. Head ordered to open public road leading from east end of Joe Moore levee, east to public road.

Dramshop license granted to J. G. Scherer, New Hamburg, and G. A. Tomlinson, Morley.

Jackson Smith was relieved from road duty.

Dental Notice.

I will be at Benton Monday, Feb. 15th to remain 4 days. Office at A. DeReign's.

J. S. WRIGHT, Dentist.

FROM NEW HAMBURG.

Mrs. Louis Pfefferkorn died Wednesday morning after a lingering illness. Burial takes place Friday at 9 a. m., from St. Lawrence's Church. The bereaved family have the sympathy of the entire community.

Cards were received here announcing the marriage of Prof. August Schulz and Miss Holder, at Charleston, February 9. Gussie has set a good example for other bachelors to follow.

W. G. Randol and G. G. Wright, of Kelso, were in our town one day last week. Mr. Randol contemplates locating here and putting up a general store.

Our local stock dealers say business is very dull, and even if a trade could be made, roads are in too bad a condition to transfer stock.

Roads are in bad shape, and our farmers are unable to come to town. As a natural result our town is very dead.

Wendelin Scherer lost a valuable milch cow last week. It is thought she was poisoned.

Frank Kuhn returned to Texarkana Tuesday, after a pleasant visit to relatives at this place.

Peter Bosen and John G. Scherer, two of our prominent citizens, were at Benton last week, courting.

Dr. G. Scholz was called to Lakeville on professional business last week.

Jacob Richert, of Bleda, is visiting his brother Louis this week.

Considerable sickness is reported in this locality.

FROM COMMERCE.

Two of our leading merchants, B. J. Tenkoff and Fred Coffman, are setting out at cost. Ben says he is starving, and Fred says he wants to sell out before he does starve.

Mrs. Wm. Taylor and Mrs. Wm. Daugherty of near Macedonia church, who have been very sick, are considerably improved.

W. W. Campbell is going to offer for sale all his horses and mule, at his farm south of Commerce, some time soon.

Robt. Buck, who has just finished a five months' term of school at Ikenedy, Mo., returned home last Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Will, who have been quite ill, are some better at this writing.

John Myers, assistant postmaster at Cape Girardeau, is spending the week here.

J. H. Crowder is having a nice patent wire fence put around his premises.

G. B. Tindall came down from St. Louis Tuesday on the Cherokee.

Ward Smith went down in Tennessee last week to visit his uncle.

The Cherokee and Benton made their regular trips Tuesday.

John Jones has an English mastiff dog that weighs 138 pounds.

A Prof. Schaefer has been tuning pianos here this week.

R. N. Kingsbury was in town Monday evening.

W. D. Anderson was here the first of the week.

John Jones is visiting his parents this week.

FROM DIEHLSTADT.

Mrs. White, wife of Wess White, died Sunday, February 7, of congestion of the brain.

Uncle John Kirkpatrick is slowly recovering, and health generally is improving.

Judge C. N. Welch and wife went to Charleston Monday.

J. F. Watkins hauled 100 bushel of peas to Cairo last week and brought back four loads of goods.

A. V. Ware, of Cairo, was visiting here last Saturday.

J. R. Simpson, of White Oak, was in our burg Monday.

E. Holms moved from our town back to his farm one day last week, and T. A. Maynard will occupy the house vacated by him.